

December 6, 2001

Memorandum

To: Bureau Assistant Directors for Administration , BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS
Bureau Fire Directors
Director, Acquisition Management Staff, U.S. Forest Service
National Fire Plan Coordinator, U.S. Forest Service

From: Debra E. Sonderman, Director */signed/*
Office of Acquisition and Property Management, and
Senior Procurement Executive

Subject: National Fire Plan Acquisition and Assistance Management Review

As part of this office's oversight responsibilities, and to verify attainment of Congressional and Departmental intent on the National Fire Plan (NFP), we are coordinating a review of acquisition and assistance programs supporting the NFP. We expect the resulting findings and recommendations to be submitted to key Congressional subcommittees as a supplement to the National Fire Plan FY 2001 End of Year Report.

The review will be initiated with a questionnaire (copy attached) that will be administered through bureau channels for response from up to 50 separate headquarters, regional and field sites per bureau/service. Responses are to be coordinated between procurement, fuels treatment, burned area stabilization/rehab and appropriate resource program personnel of the responding site.

A second phase of the review will involve travel to selected field sites in early January to follow up on issues and "best practices" opportunities raised in questionnaire responses. A significant part of this phase will be interviews with non-federal stakeholders, including state foresters, and limited contractors and grant recipients. The review team is coordinating final site selection and interview arrangements. Some interviews may be conducted by teleconference, however, we expect to do on-site team interviews at eight to twelve sites.

The questionnaire will be posted on a DOI web site for easy access by responding officials in approximately one week. The web location and instructions will be provided at that time. In the interim, please coordinate to distribute the attached Word file to appropriate sites to allow

maximum time for prospective respondents to become familiar with the questionnaire.

This effort is being coordinated by Wiley Horsley of my staff. The four Interior land management bureaus, (BIA, BLM, NPS, FWS) and the U.S. Forest Service are providing significant team participation. The U.S. Geological Survey, the Office of Surface Mining and the Department of Defense are also participating. A copy of the current team list is also attached.

Questions on this project may be directed to Mr. Horsley by e-mail at wiley_horsley@os.doi.gov or by telephone at 202-208-3347. Thank you for your cooperation in this important survey.

Attachments

cc: Russ Ashworth, Department of Agriculture
Robbie Chrishon, U.S. Forest Service
Tim Hartzell, OWLFC
Robert Lamb